

For the U.S. to regain the top ranking in the world for college degree attainment, Latinos will need to earn 6.2 million degrees by 2030.<sup>1</sup>

## FAST FACTS

### STATE RANKING:

Nebraska had the **35th largest Latino population** in the U.S.

### K-12 POPULATION:

In Nebraska, **17%** of the K-12 population was **Latino**.<sup>2</sup>

### POPULATION:

In Nebraska, **12%** of the population was **Latino**.<sup>2</sup>

### MEDIAN AGE:

The median age of **Hispanics** in Nebraska was **24**, compared to **40** for **White non-Hispanics**.<sup>2</sup>



### ENROLLMENT:

In Nebraska, **23%** of **Hispanics** (ages 18 to 34) were enrolled in higher education, compared to **26%** of **White non-Hispanics**.<sup>2</sup>

### DEGREE ATTAINMENT:

In Nebraska, **23%** of **Hispanic adults** (25 and older) had earned an associate degree or higher, compared to **48%** of **White non-Hispanic adults**.<sup>2</sup>

**Hispanic Adults = 2.3 of 10**



**White Adults = 4.8 of 10**

To reach the degree attainment goal by 2030, the U.S. can: close the degree completion gap by accelerating Latino completion while increasing for all students and scale up programs and initiatives that work for Latino, and all, students. The following demographics, institutional data, and practices inform Latino degree attainment.

### ENROLLING: Top 5 Institutions (Hispanic Undergraduates) in Nebraska, 2021-22

	Institution	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	University of Nebraska at Omaha	Public, 4-year	12,010	1,943	16%
2	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	Public, 4-year	19,448	1,613	8%
3	Bellevue University	Private not-for-profit, 4-year	8,903	1,312	15%
4	Metropolitan Community College Area	Public, 2-year	6,467	1,112	17%
5	Central Community College	Public, 2-year	3,477	1,045	30%

### ASSOCIATE DEGREES: Top 5 Institutions Awarding to Hispanics in Nebraska, 2020-21

	Institution	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	Metropolitan Community College Area	Public, 2-year	1,420	161	11%
2	Central Community College	Public, 2-year	675	134	20%
3	Southeast Community College Area	Public, 2-year	1,051	98	9%
4	Northeast Community College	Public, 2-year	740	82	11%
5	Western Nebraska Community College	Public, 2-year	176	38	22%

### BACHELOR DEGREES: Top 5 Institutions Awarding to Hispanics in Nebraska, 2020-21

	Institution	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	Bellevue University	Private not-for-profit, 4-year	2,334	275	12%
2	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	Public, 4-year	4,311	249	6%
3	University of Nebraska at Omaha	Public, 4-year	2,438	126	5%
4	Creighton University	Private not-for-profit, 4-year	1,173	89	8%
5	University of Nebraska at Kearney	Public, 4-year	871	81	9%

NOTE: We use the terms Latino and Hispanic interchangeably in this factsheet.

Source: *Excelencia in Education* analysis using U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), 2021 Fall Enrollment, Graduation Rates Survey and Institutional Characteristics Survey.

<sup>1</sup> Projections to 2030: *Excelencia in Education*. (2020). Ensuring America's Future: Benchmarking Latino College Completion to 2030. *Excelencia in Education*. Washington, D.C.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

# Nebraska Gap in Degree Completion

Closing the degree completion gap can be tracked by the 4 measures shown below. Alone, none of these measures capture the entire “story” of degree completion. However, in combination, they provide a useful picture of the gap in degree attainment between Hispanic and White non-Hispanic cohorts in a single year.

**Graduation Rate** — Total percentage of students who graduated within 150% of normal time for first-time, full-time freshmen. This incorporates students that graduated in 3 years at two-year institutions, or in 6 years at four-year institutions.

**Transferred to Another Institution** — Percentage of students that transferred to another institution and did not complete a degree.

**Still Enrolled** — Percentage of students that are still enrolled at the point of 150% normal time to completion.

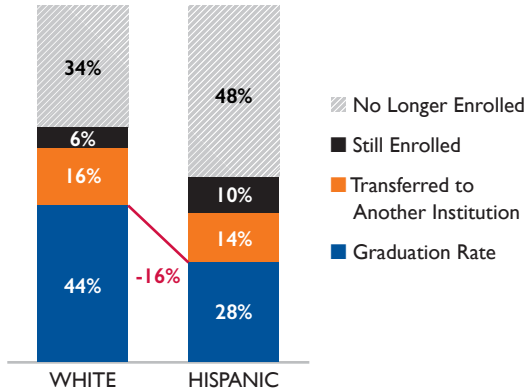
**No Longer Enrolled** — Percentage of students that are no longer enrolled at the point of 150% normal time to completion.

**DEGREE OUTCOMES**

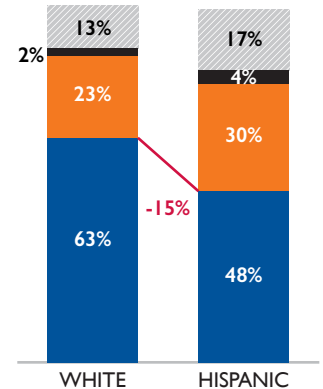
At two-year institutions, Hispanics’ graduation rate was **16%-points lower** than that of their White non-Hispanic peers in Nebraska.

At four-year institutions, Hispanics’ graduation rate was **15%-points lower** than that of their White non-Hispanic peers in Nebraska.

**TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS**



**FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS**



\*Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

NOTE: Outcomes shown are for students at two-year institutions who started in Fall 2018, and for students at four-year institutions who started in Fall 2015.

Source: *Excelencia in Education* analysis using the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, 2021 Graduation Rates Survey and the Institutional Characteristics Survey.

## Examples of What Works for Latino Students

There are institutions showing success in enrolling, retaining, and graduating Latino students. The following are examples of programs across the country with evidence of effectiveness in serving Latino students nominated for Examples of *Excelencia*.

**The Center for Educational Partnerships** at California State University-Fullerton provides opportunities for middle and high school students to successfully progress onto college/navigate higher education and supports undergraduate students through postbaccalaureate preparation. The Educational Partnership’s goals are to: improve student graduation, postsecondary and postbaccalaureate enrollment rates; increase knowledge of postsecondary and postbaccalaureate options, preparation, and financing among students and families; engage in active collaboration with community partners, educational institutions, and families through a multi-faceted approach to strengthen equitable access and supports; develop learning opportunities for students that provide them skills and knowledge to become self-advocates and leaders in their communities. Established in 2007, California State University-Fullerton’s Division of Student Affairs created the department to coordinate three TRIO grants: GEAR UP, Upward Bound, and Talent Search. Undergraduates receive support through the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program. The Center also leads campus efforts through four intersegmental partnerships and five initiatives

with non-profit community-based organizations, local school districts, and community colleges to intentionally develop early interventions and practices that prepare students for a range of college and career options. All programs provided are culturally-sensitive and recognize the need to engage Latinx families as a whole and provide bilingual services.

Since its inception the program has served over 26,000 students and over 18,500 (70%) of them were Latino participants. Of 2019 graduating Upward Bound scholars, 97% enrolled in an institution of postsecondary education immediately after high school graduation compared to 66% of all 2019 California graduating high school students. Similarly, 85% of Talent Search scholars in 2019 enrolled in an institution of postsecondary education immediately after high school graduation. In Fall 2018, 100% of graduating McNair Scholars were accepted to and enrolled in graduate studies immediately following completion of their bachelor’s. In 2018, 83% of McNair Scholars in their first year of graduate school persisted to their second year.

For more information on institutional programs improving Latino student success in higher education, access *Excelencia in Education’s* Growing What Works database at <http://www.edexcelencia.org/growing-what-works>